

JESSE LEVESQUE

Body Anxious

Jesse Levesque recently completed a Master of Arts degree in Critical and Curatorial Studies. Her thesis exhibition was entitled “Body Anxious: Mapping an Innovative Structure for Exhibition Development,” which was displayed at the University of Louisville’s Cressman Center Gallery. Levesque selected works by artists Kiki Smith, Gottfried Helnwein, Diana Falchuk, James R. Southard, Drew Sellers, Cristin Millett, and Chiharu Shiota. Her goal was to present connections between previously unrelated contemporary art works, all of which explore bodily pain, the medical world, and human anxiety. Levesque challenged the art historical precedent of displaying works connected by artist, style, region, or time period. Instead, she brought together works that connect artist and audience through a multi-dimensional web of conceptual and emotional relationships.

Levesque is currently working as a freelance curator on a sculpture garden in Dublin, Ohio. Additionally, she is involved in developing a master plan to install public art in the city of Louisville. Finally, she works with The Ground Floor Gallery, a roving art gallery that takes up temporary residence in abandon warehouses and storefronts in downtown Louisville.



ANGST VOR..., 2003, Chiharu Shiota, 47" x 31.6"

Courtesy of Goff + Rosenthal in Berlin

This photograph documents Shiota's installation/performance at Künstlerhaus Bethanien. Shiota first created a thick web by pulling and stretching black wool to all sides of the room. She then crawled into the hospital bed that was stationed in the middle of the web, with her back to the entryway. Audience members were invited into the space. Once inside, viewers observed Shiota's slight movements on the bed from the edges of the room, looking through the web.



LOS CAPRICHOS 8 (2006), Gottfried Helnwein, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 63" x 42"

Courtesy of Modernism Inc. in San Francisco

Helnwein's "Los Caprichos 8" is a hyper-realistic painting of a child's head obscured by gauze bandages wet with blood.